

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 01189 210852Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-08 MC-02
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----211308Z 039764 /42

R 210657Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER/ECJ4/7-SARA-T
HQ USAF WASHDC//LGFT
FMTAG RANDOLPH AFB TX//FA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5973
SECDEF//DSAA-ISA

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1189

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: MASS, TC
SUBJ: TRAINING FOR C-130 PILOTS AND LOADMASTERS

REF: (A) USCINCEUR ECJ4/7-SA 121737Z APR 77
(B) ABU DHABI 1032 DTG 040755Z APR 77

1. DCM GAVE ECL TEST APRIL 19 TO FOUR PROSPECTIVE PILOTS
AND FOUR LOADMASTER TRAINEES. RESULTS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) PILOTS -- ONE CANDIDATE PASSED WITH SCORE OF 82. OTHER THREE
HAD SCORES OF 74, 69 AND 63. (B) CREW -- WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT LEVEL
REQUIRED BUT SCORES AS FOLLOWS: 58, 42, 39 AND 32. WE ASSUME
THAT AT LEAST LOWER THREE SCORES ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

2. QUESTION NOW IS, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? PILOT WHO
PASSED IS UAE NATIONAL, LT. ABDEL AZIZ KHALIFA HEJRES. HE IS
YOUNG (24 YEARS OLD). HE IS 1975 GRADUATE OF PAKISTANI AIR
FORCE ACADEMY. HE HAS TOTAL OF 500 HOURS FLYING EXPERIENCE, 200
OF THAT ON ISLANDER AIRCRAFT SINCE RETURNING FROM ACADEMY.
OTHER 300 HOURS WERE EITHER AT ACADEMY OR ON SMALL PLANES IN
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OBTAINING PPL. BRITISH OFFICERS WITH UAE AIR FORCE GIVE HIM GOOD
MARKS FOR ATTITUDE AND EFFORT, ALTHOUGH THIS IS ADMITTEDLY A
RELATIVE RATING IN COMPARISON TO OTHERS HERE. ONE QUESTION IN OUR
MINDS IS WHETHER HEJRES IS CANDIDATE FOR "CONVERSION COURSE" OR
SOMETHING MORE BASIC.

3. THERE IS SECOND LOCAL PILOT, LT. ABBAS IBRAHIM YOUSIF, WHOM

LOCAL MILITARY ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN PUTTING THROUGH C-130 COURSE. HIS SCORE WAS 69. BOTH IS LISTENING TO HIM AND JUDGING BE FACT THAT HE NOT ONLY ATTENDED PAKISTAN AIR ACADEMY BUT ALSO SPENT ONE YEAR STUDYING AT MIAMI DADE JUNIOR COLLEGE IN FLORIDA, WE ARE SURPRISED HE DID NOT DO BETTER. WE ARE OBVIOUSLY NOT IN POSITION TO SPEAK DEFINITELY, BUT WE THINK THAT SOMETHING LESS THAN THE 18 WEEKS PROJECTED INN LIELC PAM 350-3 MIGHT BE SUFFICIENT TO BRING HIM UP TO XRL 80 LEVEL. ABBAS LIKEWISE HAS LIMITED FLYING EXPERIENCE--670 HOURS ON VARIETY OF AIRCRAFT UP TO ISLANDER ANWYKARIBOU.

4. OTHER TWO PILOT CANDIDATES ARE BOTH EGYPTIANS. ONE, CAPT BAHY EL DIN, IS 43 YEARS OLD WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE--5:01 HOURS INCLUDING 4053 AS CAPTAIN OR INSTRUCTOR. HE HAD FLOWN FOUR ENGINE AN 12, AND TWIN ENGINE CARIBOU, IL 14, C-46 AND DC 3 AMONG OTHERS. HE IS GRADUATE OF CAIRO AIR ACADEMY AND HIS ENGLISH SOUNDS QUITE GOOD.

HE HAD SCORE OF 74 AND AGAIN WE WONDER WHETHER HE WILL NEED 15 WEEKS PROJECTED. SECOND EGYPTIAN LT MAMDI ALI ABDEL AZIZ HAS 2065 HOURS INCLUDING 1042 AS COMMERCIAL PILOT. HE TOOK COURSE AT AERONAUTICAL ACADEMY TEXAS (SOME TIE TO AMERICAN AIRLINES) ON BOING 707. HE ALSO TRAINED ON ANTINOV 24 IN USSR AND HAS FLOWN 11 14 AS WELL. HE HAD LOWEST SCORE OF 63 AND WE FEEL LESS CONFIDENT IN PREDICTING HOW HE MIGHT DO WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE.

5. COL. TALAL, DIRECTOR TRAINING, UAE AF GHQ, UNDERSTANDABLY DISAPPOINTED THAT PILOT CANDIDATES DID NOT DO BETTER AND CONCERNED AT LENGTH OF PROJECTED ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING. PARTICULARLY WITH LIMITED NUMBER OF PILOTS HERE, FIVE MONTHS JUST STUDYING UNCLASSIFIED

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ENGLISH IS A LONG TIME. COL. TALAL ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO START WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM OF THREE MONTHS (12 WEEKS) AND TO RETEST AT END OF THAT PERIOD? HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR AT LEAST FOR LT. ABBAS AND QUITE POSSIBLY CAPT SHY EL DIN. AS INDICATED WE THINK HE MAY WELL BE RIGHT. LIKEWISE IF WE ARE WRONG, IT WOULD BE EASIER TO ACCEPT IDEA OF ADDITIONAL FOUR-TO-EIGHT WEEKS AT THE END OF THREE MONTHS THAN TO FACE UP TO 20 WEEKS NOW. WE THEREFORE HOPE SUCH PROCEDURE COULD BE TRIED. IF SO, WHEN COULD ENGLISH LANGUAGE BEGIN? WHEN WILL PILOT TRAINING BE POSSIBLE? ARE WE TALKING ABOUT "CONVERSION COURSE" OR SOMETHING MORE BASIC?

6. AS FOR CANDIDATES FOR LOADMASTER COURSE, WE DO NOT KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE--ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AS WELL AS OTHER EXPERIENCE--TO MAKE PROPOSALS. THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED--ONE MAJOR AND THREE ENLISTED PERSONNEL--ALL HAVE EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE AS LOADMASTERS ON CARIBOU (TWO OF ENLISTED MEN HAVE OVER 1000 HOURS, OTHER JUST UNDER THAT). ON OTHER HAND THEY ALL HAVE LESS THAN SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATIONS. IN SHORT

IT IS QUESTION OF HOW NEED FOR ENGLISH BALANCES AGAINST PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

7. WE REALIZE ABOVE POSES NUMBER OF TOUGH QUESTIONS. WE WELCOME REACTIONS OF ADDRESSEES AND EXPECT THERE IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE VERY EXTENSIVE THREE WAY DIALOGUE BETWEEN OURSELVES, UAE AF AND RESPONSIBLE USAF OFFICES AS WE SEEK BEST ANSWERS.
DICKMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PILOT TRAINING, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ABUDH01189
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770138-1052
Format: TEL
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770436/aaaabdzb.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a7feb0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ABU DHABI 1032
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Jul-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2743123
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAINING FOR C-130 PILOTS AND LOADMASTERS
TAGS: MASS, TC
To: USCINCEUR USAF
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a7feb0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009